

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1 to 36. (Canceled).

37. (Previously Presented) A device for dosing and transporting dry urea, comprising:

a storage vessel adapted to store dry urea in the form of pellets, a wall of the storage vessel having an opening to which a transport line is connected from outside;

a compressed air nozzle arranged inside the storage vessel at a distance from the opening and aligned with the opening; and

a portioning element having an upper side pointing to the inside of the storage vessel and a lower side arranged opposite to the wall of the storage vessel, at least one continuous channel having a cross-section greater than dimensions of the pellets connecting the upper side and the lower side arranged to form at least one receiving element for the pellets, the portioning element movably supported between the compressed air nozzle and the wall of the storage vessel to alternately be brought from one position in which the receiving elements are freely accessible from the upper side of the portioning element into a position in which the receiving elements are arranged in an aligned manner between the compressed air nozzle and the opening.

38. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 37, wherein the device is adapted to perform an SCR method in a motor vehicle.

39. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 37, wherein the portioning element includes one of (a) a disk, (b) an annular disk and (c) a hollow cylinder section supported rotatable between the compressed air nozzle and the wall of the storage vessel.

40. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 39, wherein the portioning element includes a plurality of one of (a) axially parallel receiving elements and (b) radial receiving elements arranged on one circumferential line and having a same clearance between one another.

41. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 39, wherein the receiving elements are arranged at a radial distance from an axis of rotation.

42. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 39, wherein a speed of rotation of portioning element is variable to set and change the dosing.

43. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 37, wherein the portioning element includes a slide movable back and forth along a linear guideway.

44. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 43, wherein the receiving elements are arranged parallel to a direction of motion of the slide.

45. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 43, wherein the slide is driven electromagnetically.

46. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 37, wherein the pellets have a setpoint size one of (a) in diameter and (b) diagonally of 1 to 5 mm.

47. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 37, wherein the pellets have a setpoint size one of (a) in diameter and (b) diagonally of 2 to 3 mm.

48. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 37, wherein the pellets have a setpoint size one of (a) in diameter and (b) diagonally of 1.9 mm.

49. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 46, wherein deviations of the pellets from the setpoint size are less than 10%.

50. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 46, wherein deviations of the pellets from the setpoint size are less than 5%.

51. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 37, wherein the receiving elements have a depth and cross-section adapted to accommodate a pellet.

52. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 37, wherein the receiving elements have a minimum mutual clearance greater than an exit diameter of the compressed air nozzle.

53. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 37, wherein the transport line includes a connection to an introduction of compressed air.

54. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 37, wherein a compressed air line upstream of the compressed air nozzle and the transport line downstream of the compressed air nozzle are connected by a bypass line.

55. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 37, wherein the receiving elements have a minimum mutual clearance that is smaller than an exit diameter of the compressed air nozzle.

56. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 37, wherein the opening in the wall of the vessel has a cross-section that is at least a same size as a cross-section of the receiving elements.

57. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 37, wherein the opening in the wall of the vessel has a cross-section that is greater than a cross-section of the receiving elements.

58. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 37, wherein the transport line has an unobstructed cross-section that is larger than a maximum dimension of the pellets.

59. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 37, wherein upper side edges of the portioning element are covered by a baffle.

60. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 59, wherein the compressed air nozzle is integrated into the baffle.

61. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 37, wherein pressure in the transport line is greater than environmental pressure.

62. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 37, wherein pressure in the transport line is greater than environmental pressure by 0.1 to 1.0 bar.

63. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 37, wherein pressure in the transport line is greater than environmental pressure by at least 0.5 bar.

64. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 37, further comprising a cleaning unit postconnected to the compressed air nozzle and adapted to free the receiving elements from urea remains.

65. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 64, wherein the cleaning unit includes at least one cleaning pin adapted to penetrate through the receiving elements.

66. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 65, wherein the cleaning pin is supported and activated transversely to a plane of the portioning element in a longitudinally shiftable manner.

67. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 65, wherein the cleaning pin is arranged in radial alignment about a drive shaft that extends parallel to a plane of the portioning element and transversely to a direction of motion of the receiving elements, the cleaning pin adapted to penetrate through the receiving elements during rotation.

68. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 65, wherein motion of the cleaning pin is coupled to motion of the portioning elements.

69. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 67, wherein the portioning element is connected to the drive shaft via an angle drive.

70. (Currently Amended) A method for dosing and transporting dry urea from a storage vessel to a processing location, the urea present in the form of pellets, comprising:

isolating the pellets with a portioning element having at least one receiving element, each receiving element adapted to receive a single pellet; and
transferring the pellets to a carrier air stream.

Claim 71. (Canceled).

72. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 70 [[71]], wherein the transferring includes bringing up the receiving element to a compressed air nozzle and blowing the pellet out from the receiving element.

73. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 70 [[71]], further comprising at least one of (a) regulating a speed of motion of the portioning element and (b) regulating a speed of the carrier air stream.

74. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 70, wherein a constant carrier air stream is present in a transport line.

75. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 72, further comprising introducing compressed air into a transport line downstream from the compressed air nozzle.

76. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 75, wherein the compressed air introduced into the transport line is taken from upstream of the compressed air nozzle.

77. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 76, wherein pressure in the transport line is greater than environmental pressure at an end of the transport line.

78. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 76, wherein pressure in the transport line is greater by 0.1 to 1.0 bar than environmental pressure at an end of the transport line.

79. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 76, wherein pressure in the transport line is greater by at least 0.5 bar than environmental pressure at an end of the transport line.

80. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 70 [[71]], further comprising blowing out the receiving elements by an intermittent compressed air stream.

81. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 70 [[71]], further comprising cleaning the receiving elements after blowing out the receiving elements.

82. (New) The method according to claim 70, wherein the pellets are transferred to the carrier air stream in a transport line configured to maintain isolation of the pellets from each other.

83. (New) The method according to claim 82, wherein the transport line includes a slightly larger cross section than a maximum size of the pellets.

84. (New) The method according to claim 82, wherein the pellets are isolated from each other by air cushions between the pellets in the transport line.